
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1108

AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE BY STUDENTS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) and the UConn Board of Trustees (BOT), by January 1, 2024, to establish and update as needed a plan to provide reproductive health care services from a licensed health care provider for students who live on residential campuses (i.e., any public higher education institution campus with housing) under the boards' jurisdiction. The plan must include:

1. the availability of equipment and licensed health care providers to provide reproductive health care services on the residential campus or in the surrounding community;
2. opportunities for providing reproductive health care or other associated services, including telehealth counseling services;
3. means for ensuring continuity of care during holiday and vacation periods and between semesters; and
4. an estimate of the costs associated with plan implementation and the availability of public and private funding sources to cover the costs.

The plan must also provide (1) referrals for, and transportations to, access the required health care services at any off-campus location and (2) information and materials about pregnancy being a qualifying life event for health insurance coverage in the state.

Under the bill and existing law, "reproductive health care services"

include all medical, surgical, counseling, or referral services relating to the human reproductive system, including services relating to pregnancy, contraception, or pregnancy termination, and all medical care relating to the treatment of gender dysphoria.

The bill requires BOR and BOT, within 30 days of establishing or updating the plan, to (1) submit it to the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee, and (2) post it on its website and the website of the public higher education institution associated with each residential campus.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 4 (03/07/2023)